

6/26/71

Dear Jim,

Glad to hear from you and to get the copies of the NO Mag articles. In the future, when you send printed matter, why not use the special rate, which is so much cheaper? It comes slower, but there really was no rush with them. I'll catch up on them as I find a few minutes here or there.

Your letter is too kind, but I appreciate it. Wish I thought there were a chance of accepting the offer to visit the Gulf Coast. Never had the chance. When I was in N.O. I spent all my time working.

I'll not now have time to respond to everything you wrote, for I stay snowed under, to the point where it has long interfered with writing. I've also filed suits vs the government for suppressed info., and that takes time, too.

Mark killed the college circuit by killing the interest of those audiences he didn't milk. I've not had a request to speak in two years, not even from a black school after appearance of FRAME-UP.

With the Appeals Court decision in the Shaw case, I do not know what will happen. Perhaps it would be best if nothing did. I can't figure Shaw filing that civil action, which he cannot win but which can ruin him. He may be seeking blood, but that is entirely different than a criminal proceeding, and his would flow. He is lucky that indictment is also deficient, for there is perjury other than as charged. Maybe he just wants to hurt those who helped Jim.

If there are any "conspirators" Penn didn't name, he just forgot to use that particular phone book. Poor, sick man.

In fairness to Sprague, I did no more than start him on locating the pictures, turning over what leads I had, and names. Would he had stuck to that and not become an instant expert analyst, where he is far out and unreasoning.... When Ramparts printed the Underhill story, they could not confirm it and had tried. ...

Knowledge of N.O. evidence has increased tremendously as we have dug new stuff up. With each cheat what was missed there becomes more tragic... I think I did have something for Boxley, for he'd asked me to locate an air strip and I had, among other things.... I don't have the Alex Gifford interview. I'd be surprised if Garrison did not say more than Playboy used. Norden did do the interview, and he did co-author and co-steal Flammonde's "work". I later heard he also tried suicide. However, I doubt that Playboy put words in Jim's mouth.... You are right on the anything-goes school of thought, just so it hurts the government. Almost everyone belonged, alas, which helped me stay unpopular with almost all of them. There were exceptions, like Alcock and a couple of the lawyers, and some whose position required silence but whose attitudes were clear.... In fairness to Sciambra, for all his failings, some things would have been worse but for him... I see an occasional copy of Joesten's sickness. Terrible. ... Except for the phone slip lead (Bud also had a copy) and a few nothings on Bolden, believe me, all the little fact Skolnick had came from what was edited down to FRAME-UP, was copyrighted, and I have complete statements and letters from the guy through whom he got it. Sk's letter of thanks, the works. He, too, unfortunately, is sick. He needs publicity like you need air, to live. And he is cunning. But an animated disaster... I knew nothing of JFK's or RFK's feelings about Bolden. ... Charach: there is something new, by a woman lawyer, Mrs. Barbara Warner Blehr, that does seem solid and responsible, and on this element, the ballistics, I have copies if you do not. If I have a dipe, I'll enclose. I think someone sent it to me when the LA Free Press used, but I have the originals....

On the King assassination, I'd appreciate anything you may have. You are correct on Stein. He seems to have just disappeared. What is the trail that dead-ended at the new ITM, and where there? All of it, if you can. Can you recall the details of what Grinder said led the FBI and the local police sought? This could be important, for I know much more than is in F-U. Do you recall the Italian-sounding name? There could have been an unnoticed meeting in even the halls, or an elevator, anywhere. Or, that might have been just a meeting point. Did JG do anything on this? Did he know anything? I am satisfied that more than N.O., other places in La., may be quite important in the King case. I also encourage you to believe that any public inquiries can be quite dangerous, so be careful.

Our finances are such there is little prospect of my returning to that area without a paid-for college (or other) speech, and of this there seems little prospect. The young are turned off, largely JG, Lane and Sahl, who abused them. Can't blame them, but I do regret it.

Must get to other work. Thanks, and if I see anything worthy of special comment as I read N.O.Mag, I'll write.

Thanks,
Sincerely,